

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (new): A method of preventing microbial colonization of a polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) bone cement surface, comprising the step of admixing polyhexamethylene biguanide with a PMMA bone cement, wherein the active principle concentration of the polyhexamethylene biguanide is 1% or less by weight of the total amount of the PMMA bone cement.

Claim 8 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the PMMA bone cement admixture does not contain an antibiotic.

Claim 9 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the PMMA bone cement admixture does not adversely affect the wound-healing process in the long term and does not significantly impair the curing process of the bone cement.

Claim 10 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the active principle concentration of the polyhexamethylene biguanide is in an amount of from 0.025 to 0.5% by weight of the total amount of the PMMA bone cement.

Claim 11 (new): The method of claim 10, wherein the active principal concentration of the polyhexamethylene biguanide is in a maximum amount of 0.155% by weight of the total amount of the cement.

Claim 12 (new): A medical implant produced from bone cements according to claim 7.

Claim 13 (new): The method of claim 8, wherein the PMMA bone cement admixture does not adversely affect the wound-healing process in the long term and does not significantly impair the curing process of the bone cement.

Claim 14 (new): The method of claim 8, wherein the active principle concentration of the polyhexamethylene biguanide is in an amount of from 0.025 to 0.5% by weight of the total amount of the PMMA bone cement.

Claim 15 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein the active principle concentration of the polyhexamethylene biguanide is in an amount of from 0.025 to 0.5% by weight of the total amount of the PMMA bone cement.

Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the polyhexamethylene biguanide is an antiseptic.